

REMARKS

The objection to Claim 6 is moot but the objection to Claim 12 has been addressed. Likewise the rejection of Claims 9 and 11 under 35 USC §112, ¶2 is moot, and the rejection thereunder of Claim 2 has been addressed including the inclusion of allowable Claim 5, now cancelled.

The three rejections under 35 USC §102(b) are deemed moot, requiring no further discussion. Similarly, already allowed Claims 15-20 require no further discussion.

In view of the foregoing amendments, only allowable claims are present in the application. Early and favorable action is therefore earnestly solicited.

If there are any questions regarding this amendment or the application in general, a telephone call to the undersigned would be appreciated since this should expedite the prosecution of the application for all concerned.

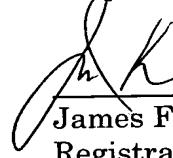
If necessary to effect a timely response, this paper should be considered as a petition for an Extension of Time sufficient to effect a timely response, and please charge any deficiency in fees or credit any overpayments to Deposit

Serial No. 10/616,966
Amendment Dated: January 10, 2006
Reply to Office Action Mailed: October 20, 2005
Attorney Docket No. 52569US

Account No. 05-1323 (Docket #056208.52569US).

Respectfully submitted,

January 10, 2006



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